

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 00954 271418Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 DHA-02

CU-02 /079 W

-----271421Z 012425 /53

O R 271244Z APR 77

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5914

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0954

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SF, PINS, PINT

SUBJECT: SOWETO STUDENTS JOIN MARCH IN PROTEST AGAINST RENT INCREASES

REF: JOHANNESBURG 937

1. DESPITE MINISTER OF JUSTICE KRUGER'S WARNNG TO STAY OUT OF IT, SOWETO STUDENTS HAVE JOINED PROTEST MARCH REJECTING PROPOSED SOWETO RENT INCREASES. EARLY REPORTS FROM SOWETO INDICATED THOUSANDS OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY STUDENTS MARCHED TO JABULANI STADIUM IN DEEP SOWETO (NEAR MORRIS ISACSON HIGH SCHOOL) CARRYING BANNERS AND SHOUTING SLOGANS. EYEWITNESSES STATE THAT POLICE ARE OUT IN HEAVY NUMBERS, BACKED UP BY 'HIPPO' ARMORED VEHICLES.

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2. MARCH SO FAR IS REPORTED PEACEFUL, WITH POLICE SAID TO BE EXERCISING EXTREME CAUTION IN HANDLING CROWDS. ONE REPORT SAYS SOWETO POLICE CHIEF VISSER HAS CAUTIONED HIS MEN TO BE EXTREMELY PRUDENT IN THE USE OF FORCE. ANOTHER SOURCE HAS STATED POLICE ARE DOING "VERY EFFETIVE" JOB CONTROLLING MARCH AND THIS STANDS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO POLICE BEHAVIOR LAST JUNE. THERE HAS BEEN

A REPORT OF TEAR GAS BEING USED IN ONE INSTANCE AND WARNING SHOTS FIRED
OVER CROWD IN ANOTHER, BUT THESE HAVE NOT BEEN CONFIRMED.

3. IT APPEARS STUDENT MARCH IS PROGRESSING WITHOUT VIOLENCE.
THERE IS SOME CONCERN, HOWEVER, THAT THERE MAY BE INCIDENTS IF
CROWD ATTEMPTS TO HOLD MEETING AT STADIUM WHICH HAS BEEN BANNED.

4. FULLER ANALYSIS OF RENT ISSUE FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
KIRBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, RENT CONTROLS, STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977JOHANN00954
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Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: JOHANNESBURG
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 2682371
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOWETO STUDENTS JOIN MARCH IN PROTEST AGAINST RENT INCREASES
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